The BURROUGHS BULLETIN fanzine

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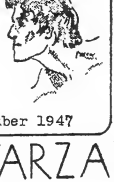

??? WEISSMULLER QUITS TARZAN ???

Now that "Tarzan and the Mermaid" has been filmed and ready for release in the near future, it has been said by several Hollywood reporters that Johnny Weissmuller will quit the Tarzan series and be replaced by another actor, probably Willard Parker.

For Mexico City premiere of "Tarzan and the Mermaid", Sol Lesser is trying to round up as many as possible of the actors who have played the jungle hero on the screen. There have been ten.

Elmo Lincoln was the first in 1918. Other Tarzan's were Gene Polar, P. Dempsey Tabler, James H. Peirce, Frank Merrill, Buster Crabbe, Herman Brix (he's Bruce Bennett now), Glenn Morris, Peng Fei and, of course, Johnny Weissmuller.

Cheta, the chimpanzee will receive $1,250 a week for a personal appearance with the Tarzan pic.

Sol Lesser wants Linda Christian, who is in the new Tarzan picture, for the next film "Tarzan and the Fountain of Youth".

Tyrone Power has seen Linda's "Tarzan" picture six times.

Producer Lesser has just bought a $75,000 greenery to use in the future Tarzan pictures.

After wearing tattered shorts and shirts for four Tarzan films in a row, Brenda Joyce will have an Adrian wardrobe for her public appearance tour with "Tarzan and the Mermaid".

Cowboy star Tom Tyler would be an excellent choice for Tarzan.

WEISSMULLER WEDS GOLFER

Reno, Nev., Jan. 29.— Five hours after divorcing his third wife, Johnny (Tarzan) Weissmuller was married to Allene Gates, 22-year-old Los Angeles golfer.

The 43-year-old film actor earlier in the afternoon had been granted a divorce from Beryl Scott, mother of his three children, and to whom he was wed nine years ago.

This is Johnny's fourth marriage. His previous wives were Singer Bobby Arnst and the late actress Lupe Velez.

Never say that all actors are superstitious. Weissmuller and his wife flew to London on Friday, Feb 13th where the swimmer will appear in an aquatic show.

Johnny Weissmullers bride will probably be his screen leading lady in the first of Johnny's pictures for Columbia release. Producer Sam Katzman decided to offer her the role after seeing some news reel shots of Allene. Johnny signed a five-year deal with Katzman, guaranteeing him four films in the first two years. He also has the right to make an outside picture each year, leaving the door ajar for more of the Tarzan series. In his new contract, Johnny got what he has been screaming for so long, a percentage of the profits. He will star in a "Jungle Jim" series and westerns.

Brenda Joyce showed a print of "Tarzan and the Huntress" at a party for her 4-year-old Pamela. The pic broke up the party. Pam had hysterics when she saw her mama being chased by leopards.

AN OPEN LETTER TO JOHNNY WEISSMULLER

Mr. Johnny Weissmuller
Hollywood, California.

Dear Johnny,

Ominous rumors, recently coming out of Hollywood, are causing some apprehension in the ranks of the many loyal followers of the Tarzan pictures. It has been said, that for various reasons, you are contemplating withdrawal from the series. You are putting on excess weight, you feel that you are getting a little too old to play the ape-man and you would like to try your hand at westerns. If you should withdraw, Johnny Sheffield would step into the role.

Well, let's listen to the voice of your fans on the subject: the ardent follower of the jungle adventure films, the chap who reads the excellent tales of Edgar Rice Burroughs, the people whose support have caused the Tarzan pictures to become one of the longest, most successful and popular of movie series.

For a number of years you have portrayed Tarzan on the screen and from the first it has been one of those rare happy blendings where the role fits the man so perfectly that it is hard to tell where Johnny Weissmuller, acquatic king leaves off and Tarzan, jungle lord begins. Thousands of devotees of the books of Mr. Burroughs are quick to criticize, in another medium of presentation, any deviation from the world and person of Tarzan of the Apes as created by Burroughs. These fans may disagree on the authenticity of the plots and character delineation of their hero as presented in the movies, but they are as one in agreeing that you as Tarzan dominate the series. Recalling to mind such good adventure films as "Tarzan the Ape Man", "Tarzan and His Mate", "Tarzan's New York Adventure" and "Tarzan and the Amazons", to name but a few, we can't imagine another in them.

And again, it is hard to picture you, armed with six-shooters and astride a cow pony, loping past the sagebrush and chaparral on your way to beat up a gang of rustlers. Where in this alien landscape lurks Sheeta the leopard, and by what water hole does Numa come to drink? Is Dirty Dan about to foreclose the mortage he holds on the old ranch house of Jane's father? Will Boy be wrongfully accused of the murder of the sheriff and it be up to you to find the real killer? Why hide that mighty chest and those brawny arms beneath a flamboyant shirt and gaudy chaps?

The spirit of Tarzan, and Tarzan himself, is ageless and since you are so well identified as the lord of the jungle, you in the fans eyes, have been ageless too. You would have to show absolute signs of senility and possibly attempt to do the part in the Lionel Barrymore manner before we would reluctantly conclude that we needed a new Tarzan.

Without you the series would very likely shortly come to an end. Johnny Sheffield is firmly established as Korak, or Boy, as the producers prefer, but it would be a mistake to abruptly thrust him out on his own, call him Tarzan, and expect us to accept him. Neither could he draw as Boy, for it is the magic name of Tarzan that brings the fan into the theatre.

Continue to give us more of these action-filled, entertaining jungle pictures and remember that you are our choice for the role of Tarzan of the Apes. Sincerely, Al Howard —in behalf of your fans.

"HOW OLD IS TARZAN?"

by John Harwood

"How old is Tarzan?" someone asks. A simple question. Feeling important and very learned, you answer, "That's easy. Tarzan was born in the latter part of 1888. This is 1947, so Tarzan will be fifty-nine years old around the end of the year." A simple answer to a simple question. But... If you are a careful reader of the Tarzan books you may or may not have noticed a fact that makes you doubt this. What is this fact? Well, before we go into this, let's just go over the dates in the Ape-man series and see if we can discover any inconsistancy.

The first date we come across in "Tarzan of the Apes" is 1888, the year Lord and Lady Greystoke sailed for Africa. They set out for Africa in May. Giving them a month to get ready after receiving orders, they would have been ordered to Africa in April. According to the story, they received these orders three months after their marriage. Thus, they would have been married in January 1888.

They knew when they started that Lady Alice was expecting as they went equipped with childrens books so that they could educate their child when he grew old enough. So! January plus nine months brings us to October or possibly November 1888.

Another reference to the date is contained in "The Return of Tarzan" when Tarzan refers to the fact that that he was twenty before he saw his first white man. This happend in February 1909 according to the date on Jane's letter.

Tarzan saw his first native in 1907 when he was eighteen. (His eighteenth birthday would have been in October or November 1906) This is an important date to remember because it gives a clue to a later date.

Now, on what date did Tarzan leave the jungle for the first time? Lets examine the facts. Jane's letter is dated "Feb. 3(?),1909." She is kidnapped by Terkoz and rescued by Tarzan a month later, this would be somewhere around the first of March. At the time Tarzan rescues Jane, he leaves her at the cabin and rushes off to rescue D'Arnot from the natives. D'Arnot is so weak from his experiences that he develops a fever and has to stay in the jungle for about a week. After they return to the cabin they stay there for another week before leaving for civilization. This takes up two weeks from the time Jane was rescued from the ape Terkoz by Tarzan. So, we can make the date somewhere between the 15th and the 20th. To make a guess, call it March 17, 1909.

"The Return of Tarzan" starts off with him on his way back to Europe from America aboard a liner. On page four it refers to him spend-twenty of his twenty-two years in the jungle. He was twenty when he left the jungle in 1909. Two years later must have been 1911. It also states that it is four years since he saw his first native (1907). This again takes us to 1911.

At the end of the book Tarzan and Jane marry and pernaps the next year (1912) sees the birth of their son, Jack (korak). The next book, "The Beasts of Tarzan," takes place two years after the events in "The Return of Tarzan," or in 1913. The book ends with the death of Rokoff and the capture of Paulvitch by cannibals.

After a captivity of ten years, Paulvitch returns to London with the ape, Akut, in 1923. In 1923 Tarzan would be thirty-four and Korak would be a boy of eleven. So, Korak takes to the jungle at the age of eleven years. He meets Meriem a year later when he is twelve and she is eleven. When Tarzan rescues her from the Swedes she is fifteen. Then a year later Korak returns to his family, or when he is seventeen. This brings the time up to 1929 when Tarzan is forty. At the end of the year in October or November he would have reached his forty-first birthday. Eighteen years later, or in 1947, he would be fifty-nine.

Do I hear someone say, "I told you so," under their breath? Well, don't crow yet. Remember I said something about a fact that makes you doubt the accuracy of this answer to the question.

Here's the fact:

KORAK!

Get it?

Well! What was the year Korak was born? 1912. He was one year old during the action in "The Beasts of Tarzan"! Ten years later, when he goes into the jungle with Akut, he is eleven years old. Six years of jungle life brings him to the age of seventeen. This is in 1929.

Still don't get it? Well, here it is. In "Tarzan the Terrible" when Tarzan finds Jane, she asks for news of Jack. Tarzan tells her that he doesn't know where he is at the present, but the last he heard, Jack was on the Argonne front. The first World War--1914-1918. Korak was born in 1912. Was Korak a World War veteran in 1923 at the age of eleven? He must have been in the infantry.

Now, to do some revising of dates. Say, Korak enlisted in the Army when he was eighteen when the War started in 1914. Counting backwards, we finally wind up with a chronological sequence something like this:

Tarzan was born in October or November of 1872. Along about 1891, when he is eighteen, he meets his first natives. Then two years later, in 1893, Jane comes to the jungle and meets Tarzan. Two more years pass and Tarzan is returning to Africa (1895). Here, after rescuing Jane from the altar at Opar, he marries her. Korak is born a year later, in 1896. When the action in "The Beasts of Tarzan" takes place, it is two years from the time of Tarzan and Jane's marriage, or 1897. At this time Paulvitch falls into the hands of the cannibals for a ten year imprisonment. This brings us up to 1907, during which time Korak enters into his father's footsteps. Korak returns to civilization in 1913 after a six year stay in the jungle. The next year (1914) the World War breaks out in Europe and he enlists. He is now eighteen and Tarzan is forty-one. When the War ends in 1918 they are twenty-two and forty-five respectively. Say, Korak leaves the Army immediately and it takes him a year to locate his parents in Pal-ul-don. Then Korak is twenty-three and Tarzan is forty-six. Twenty-eight years later (1947) Korak is fifty-one and Tarzan is seventy-four (seventy-five in October or November).

This makes sense as far as Korak's age is concerned, but how about Tarzan swinging through the trees at the age of seventy-four? Is he ageless like John Carter? Is his agelessness caused by the eternal youth pills concocted by the Immortal Men in "Tarzan's Quest?" Who knows. Anyway, Tarzan swings on.

This brings up another question. Did ERB just write a series of fiction books without regard to detail? Is Tarzan a figment of the author's immagination? Or, on the other hand, was Burroughs hampered in his research by illegible records? If you remember the first book of the series, "Tarzan of the Apes", you will recall that Mr. Burroughs starts off with an account of how he happened to write the story.

He tells us that he compiled his material from "written evidence in the form of musty manuscript, and dry offical records of the British Colonial Office..." and "the yellow, mildewed pages of the diary of a man long dead." "Musty manuscript" and "yellow, mildewed pages." Doesn't this suggest that most of the writing would be faded and hard to read after such long years and the deplorable condition of the records. No wonder Mr. Burroughs' dates should be inaccurate. Anyone familiar with research in old papers will know at once just how hard a job it must have been to comb out the facts from such, shall we say, junk. Mr. Burroughs is to be congratulated on the job that he did accomplish and not condemned for the natural mistakes he may have made.

No matter what errors appear in the dates, readers of the books will still continue to enjoy them. Tarzan will go on entertaining his fans and more fans will be in the making as the years roll on.

(I would like to say that the Editor, Vernell Coriell, is really responsible for this article. When I sent in the Tarzan Quiz, which appeared in the August issue of the Bulletin, I had an extra question about the age of Korak when he rescued his parents in "Tarzan the Terrible." It so happened that Vernell was thinking about writing an article on the age of Tarzan and the question made him realize that he would have to revise his plans to include the participation of Korak in the War. He left out the question and asked me to do some more research on the dates mentioned in the series. I did so and sent him the information. When he foundout that I had enough data to do the article myself he invited me to do so, thus leaving himself free to spend the time on the Bulletin.) ((Thanks John, but you did a much better job on the article than I could have ever done.))

THE AGES OF TARZAN AND KORAK

Date	Event	Age of Tarzan	Age of Korak	Revised Date
1888				1872
Jan.	Lord and Lady Greystoke married			
Apr.	Three months later Lord Greystoke ordered to Africa			
May	After month (?) to make ready they sail from Dover for Africa			
June	Arrive at Freetown month later and charter Fuwalda			
	2nd day Black Michael wounded by captain			
	4th day One of crew wounded by mate			
	5th day Sighted battleship			
	6th day Mutiny occured			
	11th day Land sighted			
	12th day Greystokes marooned			

Date	Event	Tarzan	Korak	Date
1888				1872
July	Cabin built month later			
Aug.	Settled at end of second month			
Oct-Nov.	Tarzan born on same day that father and mother were attacked by ape			
1889				1873
Oct-Nov.	Tarzan taken by Kala after death of parents	1		
1890				1874
Sep-Oct.	Nearly year later before he learned to walk	2		
1898				1882
Oct-Nov.	Tenth birthday	10		
1899	Excellent climber at ten Learns to swim Enters cabin Kills gorilla with knife	10		1883
1901	Discovers pencils	12		1885
1902	Kills Tublat	13		1886
1906	Learns to read and write after years of study	17		1890
1907	Can read fluently Natives enter territory Death of Kala	18		1891
1908				1892
Oct-Nov.	Twentieth birthday	20		
1909				1893
Feb.3(?)	Jane comes to jungle	20		
Mar. 3(?)	Month later Tarzan rescues Jane from Terkoz Tarzan rescues D'Arnot from natives and keeps him in jungle for week with fever Returns to cabin and stays another week before leaving for civilization			
Mar17(?)	Leaves for civilization			
1911	Tarzan returns on liner from America Marries Jane	22		1895
1912 (?)	Korak born	23		1896
1913	Tarzan stranded on Jungle Island Paulvitch captured by natives	24	1	1897
1920	Moriem kidnaped at age of seven	31	8	1904

Date	Event	Age of Tarzan	Age of Korak	Revised Date
1923	Paulvitch rescued after ten years Korak takes to jungle	34	11	1907
1924	Korak meets Meriem	35	12	1908
1928	Tarzan rescues Meriem from Swede at fifteen	39	16	1912
1929	Year later Tarzan finds Korak Korak and Meriem married	40	17	1913
	World War begins	41	18	1914
	World War ends	45	22	1918
	Present time	74	51	1947

If Tarzan had been born in 1888 he would be only 59 at the end of this year (1947) and Korak would be 35,

*****

Editors note- Since the above article was writen it has been revealed in the new Tarzan book, "Tarzan and the Foreign Legion", that the ape-man has acquired perpetual youth.

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ANNOUNCEMENT FROM EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS, INC.

The new Martian novel, titled LLANA OF GATHOL, has been released and is on sale at all good book stores. It is illustrated by John Coleman Burroughs and is priced at $2.00 per copy. Also priced at $2 per copy are these recent Burroughs thrillers:

TARZAN AND THE FOREIGN LEGION
ESCAPE ON VENUS
LAND OF TERROR

And here's more good news. ERB, Inc., have reprinted 22 Edgar Rice Burroughs novels, priced at only $1.00 per copy:

TARZAN AND THE LOST EMPIRE
TARZAN AT THE EARTH'S CORE
TARZAN THE INVINCIBLE
TARZAN TRIUMPHANT
TARZAN AND THE CITY OF GOLD
TARZAN AND THE LION MAN
TARZAN AND THE LEOPARD MEN
TARZAN'S QUEST
TARZAN AND THE FORBIDDEN CITY
TARZAN THE MAGNIFICIENT
A PRINCESS OF MARS
THE GODS OF MARS
THE WARLORD OF MARS
THUVIA, MAID OF MARS
THE CHESSMEN OF MARS
THE MASTER MIND OF MARS
A FIGHTING MAN OF MARS
SWORDS OF MARS
SYNTHETIC MEN OF MARS

PIRATES OF VENUS
LOST ON VENUS
CARSON OF VENUS

Here is your opportunity to replenish your library with Edgar Rice Burroughs novels. You are urged to order from your dealer; but if there is no dealer in your community, you may remit check or money-order to Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc. Tarzana, Calif. listing the titles you wish.

The third issue of the Dell Publications Tarzan Magazine is now on sale. It features "Tarzan and the Dwarfs of Didona".

SALE AND SWAP COLUMN FOR BURROUGHS ITEMS

GLAMOROUS! ADVENTUROUS!
BRAND NEW!
The 1948 Mars Novel by
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LLANA OF GATHOL

Order your copy now from: Weaver Wright, Box 6151 Metropolitan Stn, Los Angeles (55) California

Wallace Lawton, 1 Sickles St. New York 34, N.Y. wants to trade TARZAN TRIUMPHANT for A FIGHTING MAN OF MARS or TARZAN THE INVINCIBLE.

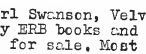
W.H. Akins, 101 Schiller St. Little Rock, Ark. has several ERB books to trade for THE OUTLAW OF TORN, THE MUCKER and RETURN OF TARZAN.

I have about 20 ERB books, including a lot of the rare ones, for sale at moderate prices.
J.T.Oliver 712-32nd St. Columbus, Ga.

Edwin Rothouse, 6421 North Sydenham St. Philadelphia 26, Pa. has many ERB books to trade & sell.

Robert H. Schlutter, 3004 Iona Terrace, Baltimore 14, Md., wants JUNGLE GIRL and THE LAND THAT TIME FORGOT.

Carl Swanson, Velva, N. Dak. has many ERB books and magazine stories for sale. Most are rare and sought after by collectors.



TARZAN AND THE FORBIDDEN CITY is now being picturized in the daily TARZAN newspaper strip.

—o—

You are invited to send in items on ERB and his characters for publication in the BB.
Burroughs Bulletin Box 78 Manito, Ill.

CORRESPONDENCE QUOTES

It is interesting to note, I think, how many people have at one time or another been Burroughs fans. Not too long ago, during my Physics class, our instructor walked by and picked up a copy of the new "Escape On Venus" which I had on my desk. After class we had a discussion on it and it seems that for a number of years Burroughs had been his favorite author, but when he had started to work he couldn't find the time to read so much. After he learned I read Burroughs he, of course, had to borrow the books he had missed out on.

—Hal Billings

ERB saved a mag that I was reading in school. It was an old issue of Amazing Stories. The teacher caught sight of it and said "I don't think you are reading the right kind of literature". She started to take the mag away from me but when she saw that it contained a story by ERB she allowed me to keep it. She seemed to think highly of Edgar Rice Burroughs.

—Bill Searles

The article by J. Harwood on the unwritten stories struck a responsive chord here. I've always wondered what happened to the Bowman of Lothar after he disappeared in the distance swinging that sword at those fleeing Green Men. And how about the girl whom Tario occasionally materialized? I'm sure that she got away unscathed somehow.

—Bob Schlutter

Speaking of the linguistic ability of Nat Pendleton, (BB Nov. #6) Tarzan is something of a linguist, by circumstance. His first language is that of the apes. He teaches himself English and then D'Arnot teaches him French. He uses Arabic and German in the later books, not to mention the plethora of African dialects, and the dialects of the other lost tribes he encounters. And I am forgetting Dutch, mentioned in Tarzan and the Foreign Legion.

—Gordan Stoeckler